

AKIRA

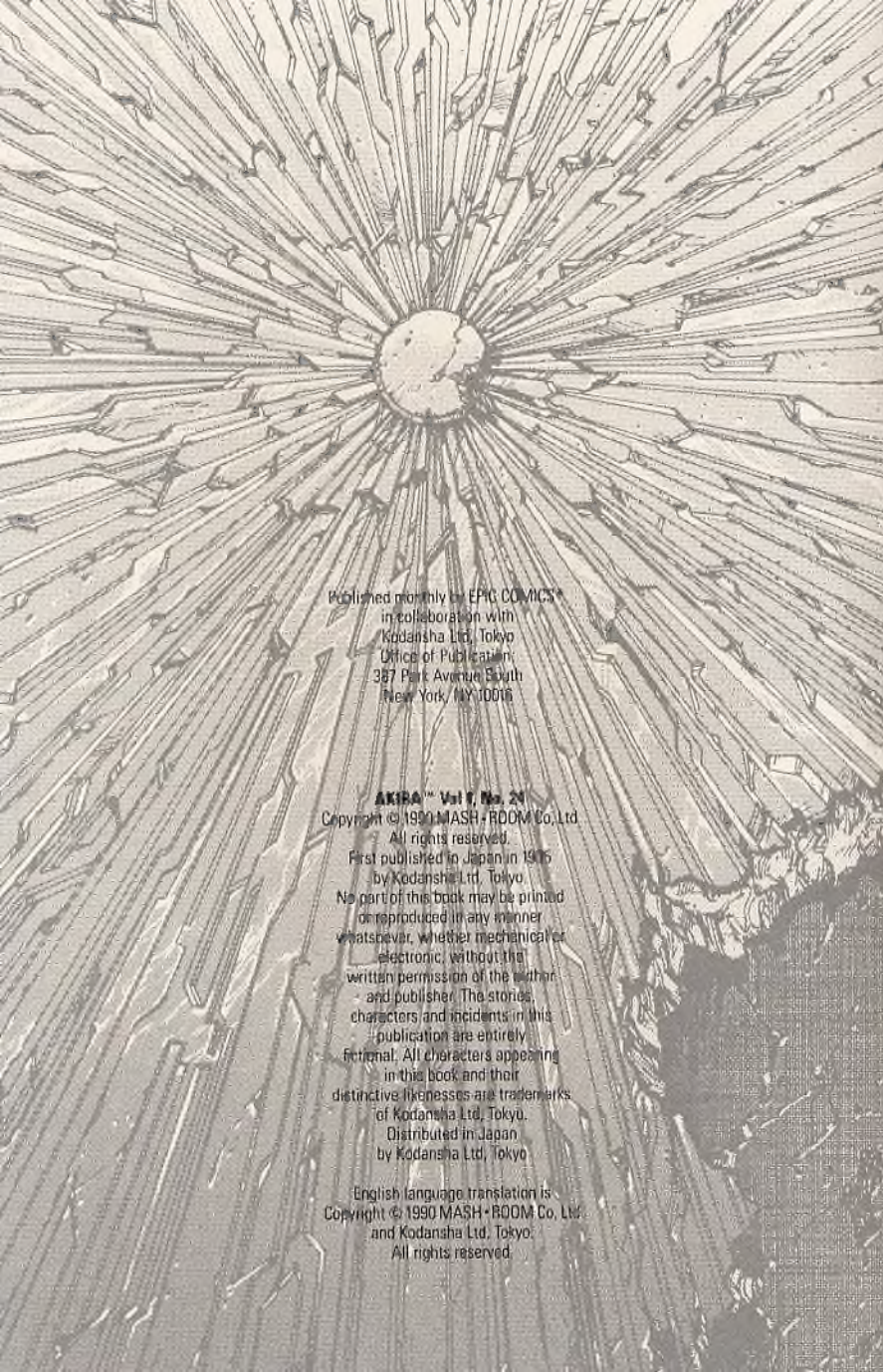
24™



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KATSUHIRO OTOMO



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WHAT HAS GONE BEFORE



Twenty-three. The world hovers on the brink of World War IV. In a section of **Neo-Tokyo** known as the "old city"—where, thirty-eight years before, the destruction of World War III began—a band of teenaged delinquents led by **Kaneda** encounter **Number 26**—a child named **Takashi** who uses extraordinary telekinetic abilities to injure **Tetsuo**, one of Kaneda's close friends.

As a result **Kaneda** and

Tetsuo become entangled in a power struggle between a mysterious military and scientific organization led by the **Colonel** and an underground resistance group bent on putting a stop to the Colonel's activities. Members of the resistance include **Kay**, **Ryu**, and a formidable woman named **Chiyoko**. Among their superiors is the blind **Lady Miyako**—a powerful religious leader with strong precognitive gifts.

The **Colonel** has a number of psychic children under his control. **Takashi**, **Kiyoko**, and **Masaru** are identified by numbers marked on their hands. **Lady Miyako** was, at one time, **Number 19**. **Number 28** is **Akira**, so powerful that since the war he has been suspended in cryogenic sleep.

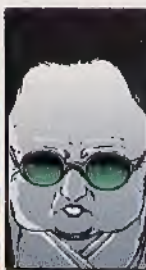
The Colonel's staff conducts experiments which awaken tremendous telepathic potential in **Tetsuo**, who is redubbed **Number 41**. **Tetsuo** is able to shrug off the most serious injuries. He goes on a killing spree, even attacking **Kaneda**. Followed by **Kay** and **Kaneda**, **Tetsuo** seeks out **Akira**, whose powers he fears may rival his own. In hibernation, Akira's power responds to Tetsuo's psychic energy. When **Tetsuo** reaches Akira's resting place, the



Kaneda



The Colonel



Lady Miyako



Masaru



cryogenic chamber cracks from within. **Akira** emerges, dazed and docile following his long sleep.

The **Colonel** summons the powerful SOL military satellite and orders that its laser cannon be fired at **Tetsuo** and **Akira**. The two are separated by the blasts. **Akira** is saved by **Kay** and **Kaneda**, but the laser strikes Tetsuo's left arm. Afterward, **Neo-Tokyo** is placed in a state of military emergency, with "caretaker robots" patrolling the street and keeping order.

Akira and the resistance fighters are cornered by the Colonel's troops, but all seems well when **Takashi** fondly greets **Akira**. Then **Nezu**, a former resistance leader who has betrayed his own side, arrives. He tries to kill **Akira**, but kills **Takashi** instead.

The trauma of Takashi's death galvanizes **Akira**. He fully

awakens and unleashes a light blast powerful enough to devastate the entire city.

Masaru and **Kiyoko** sweep most of the people in the area upward. **Kaneda** is last seen vanishing toward the sky. Afterwards, **Lady Miyako** opens her temple and offers shelter and comfort to those in need, gathering large groups of followers in the East.

Neo-Tokyo is completely cut off from the outside world. In the western part of the city the **Great Tokyo Empire** is formed—a monarchy with **Akira** as the figurehead and **Tetsuo** as his prime minister. Together the pair use their powers, healing the sick, wielding control of the faithful, and organizing their subjects into fighting units that destroy caretaker robots and conquer military and medical relief parties sent from the outside



Tetsuo



Kai



Tetsuo's Aide



Lt. Yamada

world. The **Empire** is eventually infiltrated by teams of spies from the outside.

Masaru and **Kiyoko** are sick with withdrawal from the drug which augments and channels mental powers, and when **Kiyoko**, whose powers are precognitive, tell **Kay** to find **Number 19**, **Lady Miyako** asks that **Kay** bring other psychics to her when they are well.

Tetsuo's men kill most of the spies from the outside, but their leader, **Lt. Yamada**, escapes when **Ryu** leads him into the safety of an underground shelter. **Yamada** refuses to tell **Ryu** who has sent him. He does, however, reveal that Russia has conquered part of Japan, and that the Americans' fear of **Akira** makes them reluctant to get involved.

Tetsuo forces an orgy of sex and drugs on several young girls, only one of whom—**Kaori**—survives. Afterwards, **Tetsuo** looks into Akira's mind. He emerges a terrified wreck. When he recovers, he decides that **Lady Miyako** may be able to explain matters to him. Taking a dose of power-enhancing medication, **Tetsuo** teleports to the temple of the religious leader. **Lady Miyako** warns Tetsuo that he alone can control Akira's near-inconceivable powers, but that he must first

overcome his dependency on drugs. Disgusted and perplexed, **Tetsuo** returns to his stronghold. There he neglects his duties of state, concentrating instead on trying to kick the habit.

Kay and **Chiyoko** try to move **Masaru** and **Kiyoko** to Lady Miyako's temple, but are attacked by Tetsuo's followers, who escape with **Kiyoko**.

Chiyoko rescues the girl, but is badly wounded. The two are brought to safety by the **Colonel**, who has been living in isolation. **Chiyoko**, delirious, tells the **Colonel** to take **Kiyoko** to the temple, where he'll also find **Masaru**. Meanwhile, **Kay** safely conveys **Masaru** to the temple.

Ryu and **Lt. Yamada** watch the **Empire** from hiding. When Tetsuo's dapper lieutenant—disgusted by Tetsuo's lack of interest in the way **Lady Miyako** has thwarted their schemes—leads most of the Empire's men out as an army, **Ryu** and **Yamada** move in. They are startled by an encounter with **Tetsuo**, his power surging erratically from withdrawal. **Ryu** is even more startled when **Tetsuo** blurts out what his telepathy has shown him—that **Yamada** has come to assassinate **Akira**.

Tetsuo's lieutenant leads his



Kiyoko



Kaori



Ryu



Kay



army to Lady Miyako's temple, and they slaughter all in their path—monks, penitents and helpless refugees alike. They are, however, thwarted by the power of Lady Miyako's psychically gifted monks and defeated when **Kay** captures their leader. **Lady Miyako** refuses to permit the execution of her enemies. Tetsuo's men depart alive, bitterly swearing revenge. They return an hour later hungry for blood and victory.

Kay, along with **Kai**—one of the surviving members of Kaneda's old gang—urges **Lady Miyako** to flee before it's too late. The religious leader refuses, so the three board Lady Miyako's private elevator with **Masaru** and depart for the temple's tower to make a last stand.

The **Colonel** arrives outside the temple with **Kiyoko**. He is wounded by some of the Empire's men, but is rescued by a soldier formerly under his

command. The **Colonel** reveals his possession of a remote control laser gun that enables him to fire blasts from the SOL military satellite.

Lady Miyako's elevator reaches the tower. The doors open to reveal **Tetsuo**, sweating, delirious, and undergoing severe physical trauma from drug withdrawal.

Tetsuo's physical symptoms culminate in an explosive leap skyward that unleashes even further devastation on **Neo-Tokyo**. During the mayhem, **Kaneda** reappears, as if from nowhere.

Tetsuo hallucinates wildly, experiencing recollections of his parents and his early childhood. He is humbled by a vision of the double helix spiral that **Akira** constantly creates when he plays. Only **Kaori** is there to see **Tetsuo** return to the seat of the **Great Tokyo Empire** and bow down to his young lord.



Akira



Chiyoko



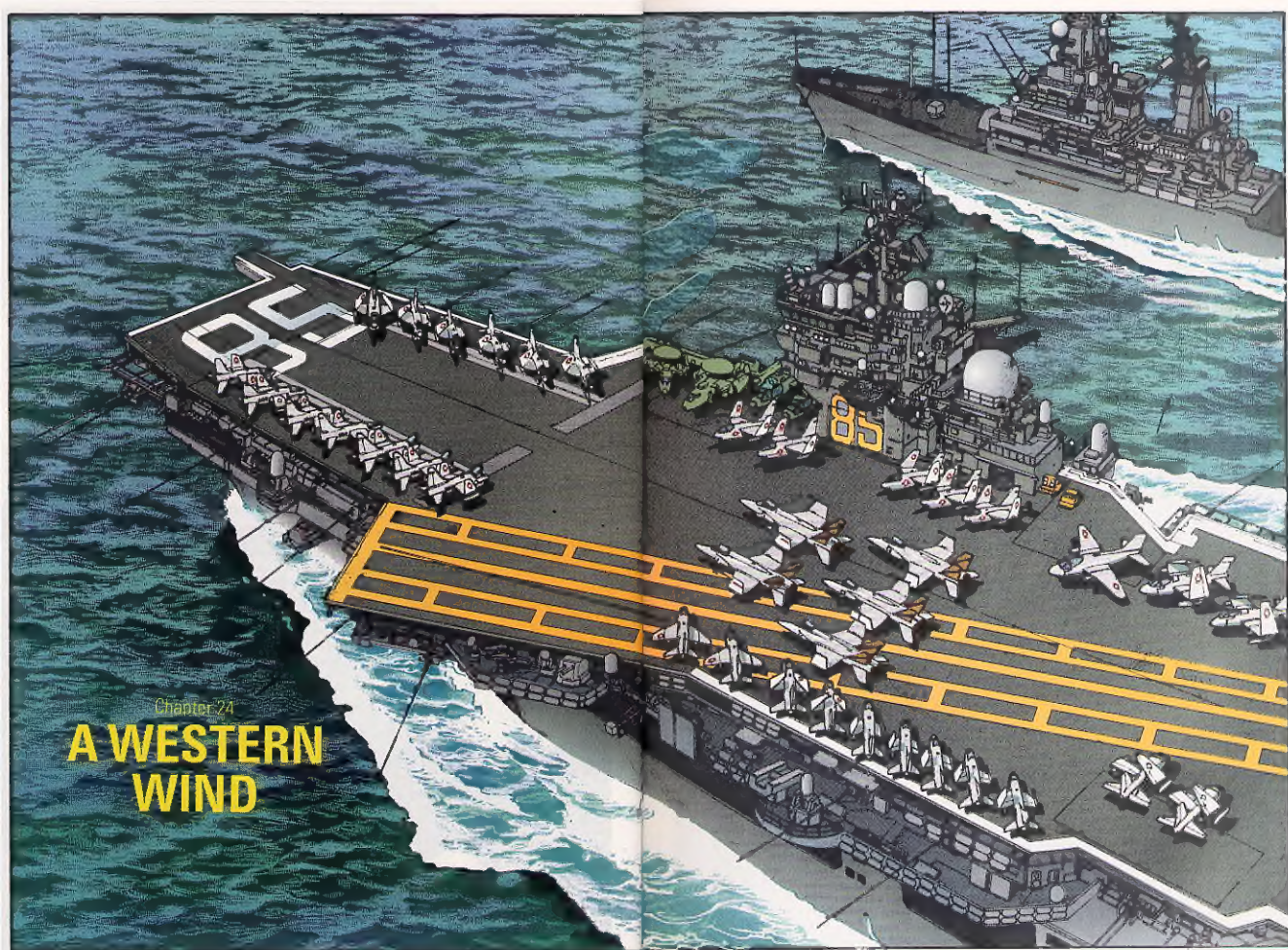
Joker

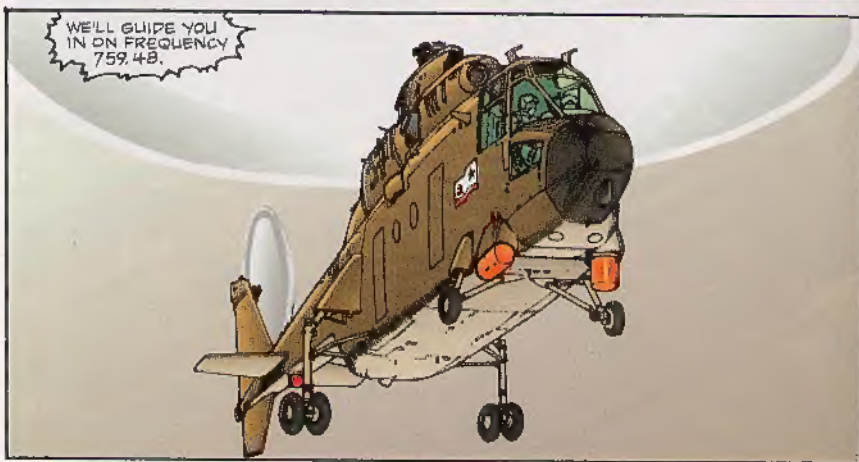
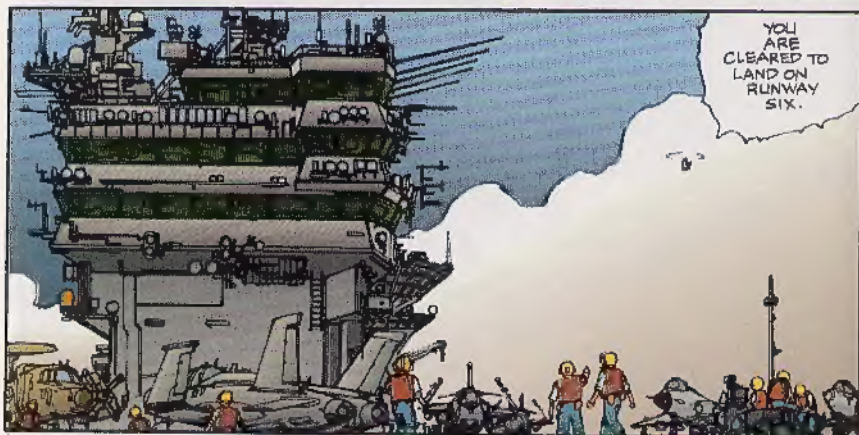
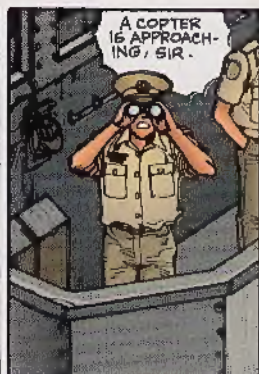


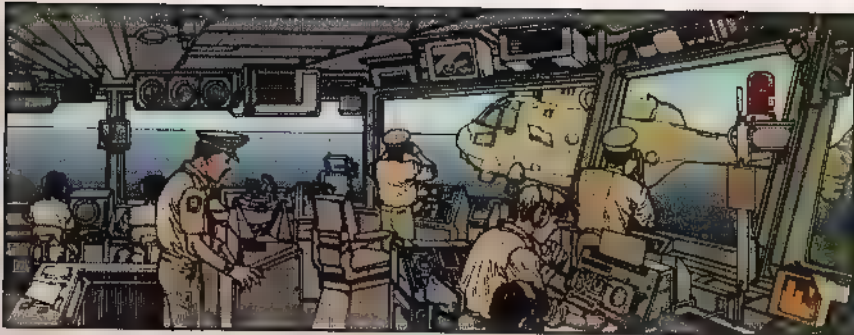
Seer



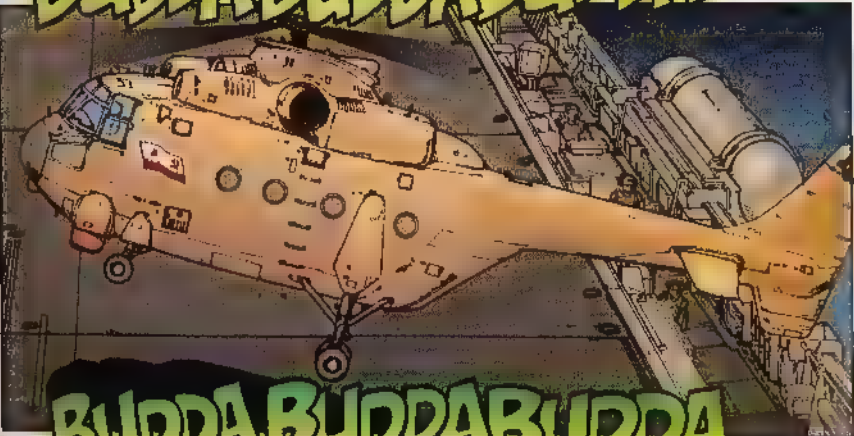
Chapter 24
**A WESTERN
WIND**





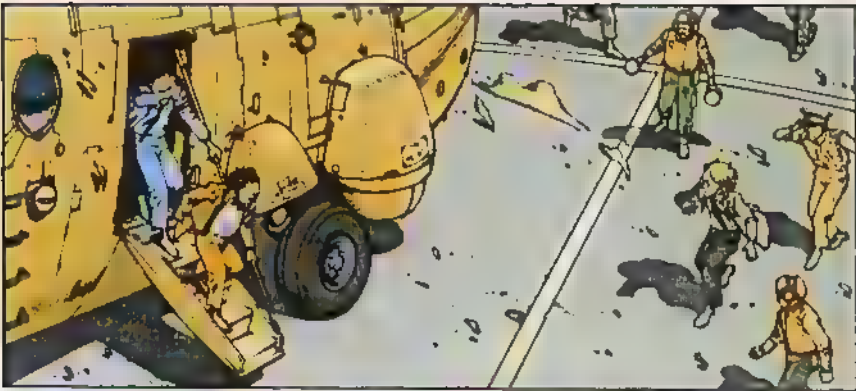


BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA



BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA





IMPERFECT EXPLANATIONS WILL ONLY INCREASE THE MAN'S BEWILDERMENT.

IF WE MISHANDLE THINGS, WE RUN THE RISK OF BEING CASTIGATED AS TRAITORS...OR EVEN MADMEN.

I KNOW NOW HOW GALILEO MUST HAVE FELT.

YOU MAKE US SOUND GUILTY IF ONLY WE HADN'T WASTED SO MUCH TIME.

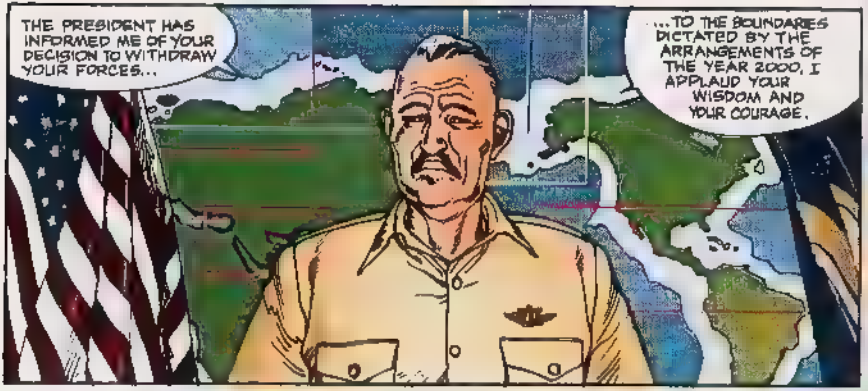
IF THE MILITARY HAD LISTENED TO US IN THE FIRST PLACE, THINGS WOULD NEVER HAVE COME TO THIS PASS.

I FEEL THE SAME WAY.

KEEP OUT

THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT YOU'RE HERE WHILE THERE'S STILL TIME...

... BEFORE THE BUTTON HAS BEEN PUSHED.



THE PRESIDENT HAS
INFORMED ME OF YOUR
DECISION TO WITHDRAW
YOUR FORCES...

...TO THE BOUNDARIES
DICTATED BY THE
ARRANGEMENTS OF
THE YEAR 2000, I
APPLAUD YOUR
WISDOM AND
YOUR COURAGE.

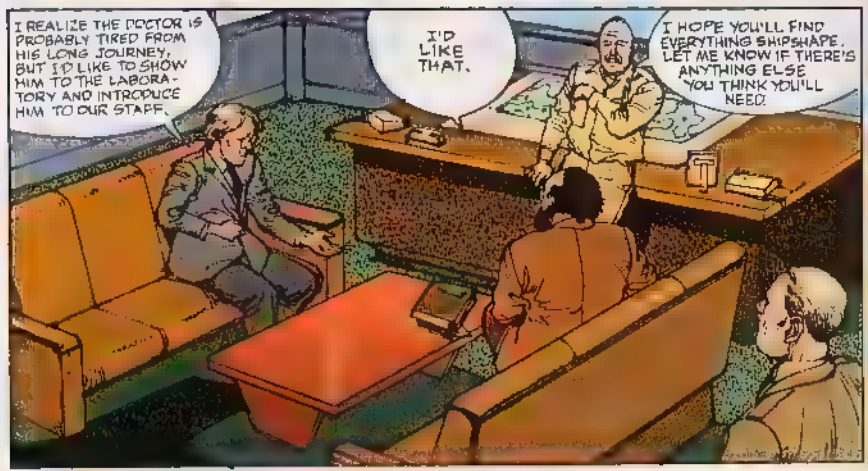


I APPRECIATE
THAT. I'M NOT
A SOLDIER, BUT
IT'S OBVIOUS
THAT THIS WAR
HAS GROWN...

...OUT OF MISTRUST
AND MISUNDERSTAND-
ING ON BOTH SIDES.
SOMEONE MUST BE
WILLING TO TAKE THE
FIRST STEP.



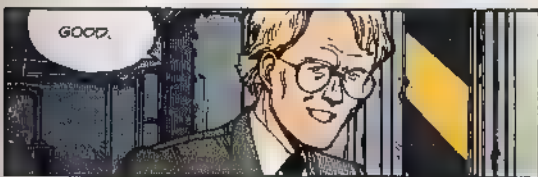
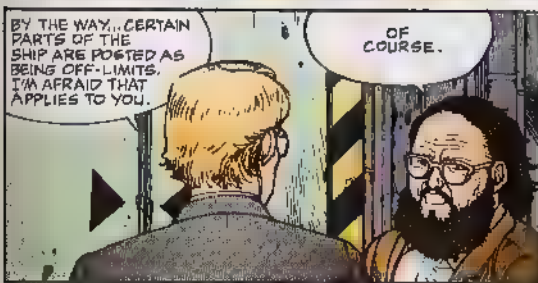
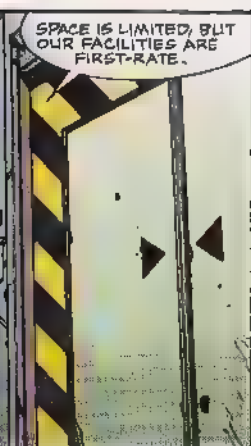
PLEASE THANK YOUR
PRESIDENT FOR AGREEING
TO THIS JOINT SOVIET-
AMERICAN APPROACH TO
THE STUDY OF OUR
PROBLEM.

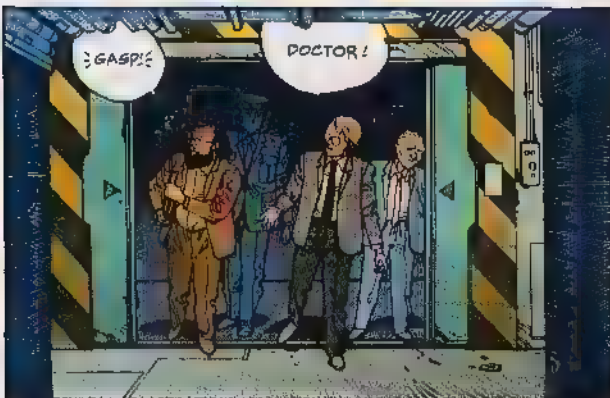


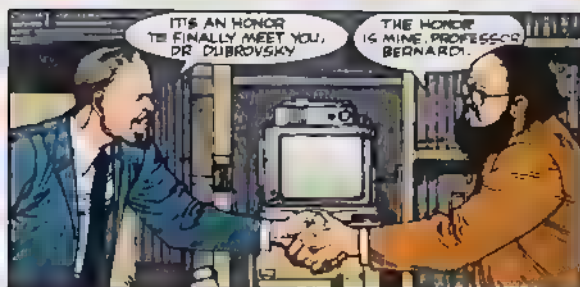
I REALIZE THE DOCTOR IS
PROBABLY TIRED FROM
HIS LONG JOURNEY,
BUT I'D LIKE TO SHOW
HIM TO THE LABORA-
TORY AND INTRODUCE
HIM TO OUR STAFF.

I'D
LIKE
THAT.

I HOPE YOU'LL FIND
EVERYTHING SHIPSHAPE.
LET ME KNOW IF THERE'S
ANYTHING ELSE
YOU THINK YOU'LL
NEED.







SHALL
WE
BEGIN?



BEFORE WE EXAMINE THE NEW
MATERIALS DR. DUBROVSKY HAS
BROUGHT US, I SUGGEST WE MAKE
SURE OUR OWN ANALYSIS IS
COMPLETELY UP TO DATE.



A GOOD IDEA... BUT FIRST;
DON'T YOU THINK THIS
PROJECT SHOULD HAVE
A NAME?



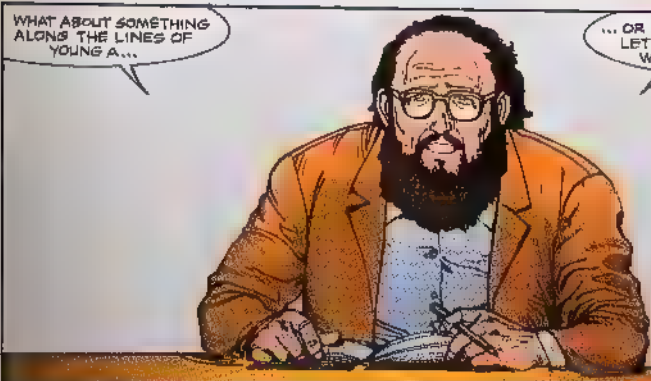
I CONCUR. PERHAPS
DR. DUBROVSKY
WOULD CARE
TO...?



AHEM =



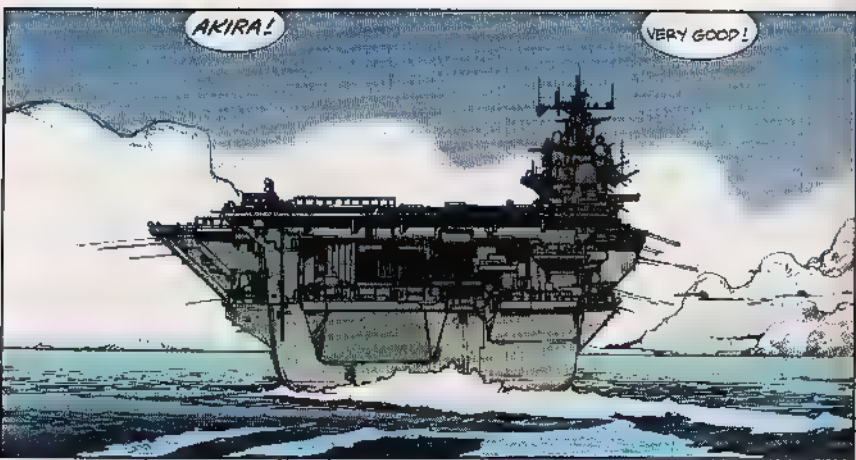
WHAT ABOUT SOMETHING
ALONG THE LINES OF
YOUNG A...



... OR JUVENILE A... AND THE
LETTER A, OF COURSE,
WOULD STAND FOR...

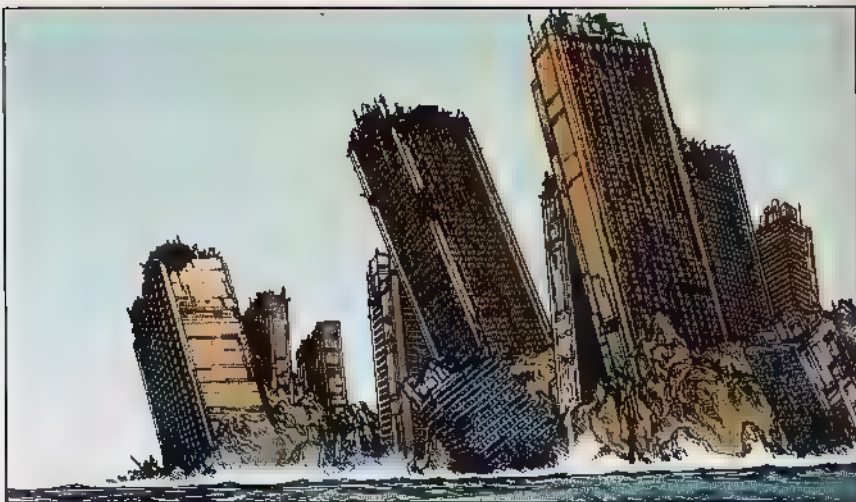
AKIRA!

VERY GOOD!

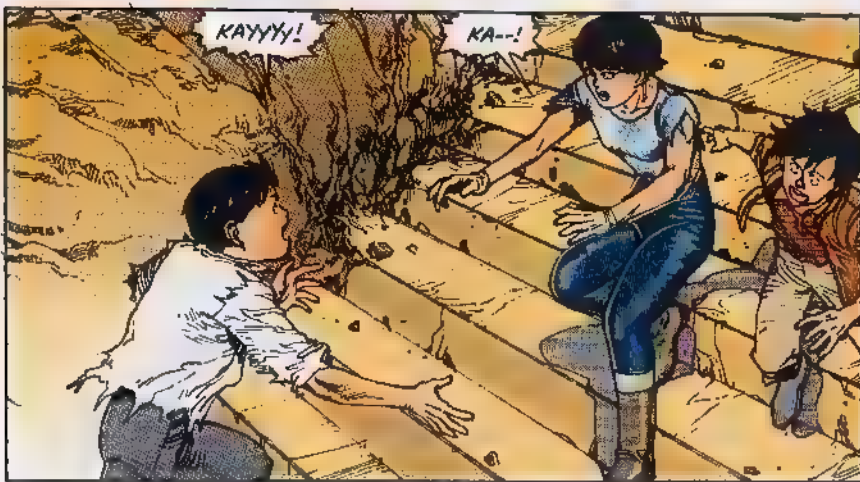
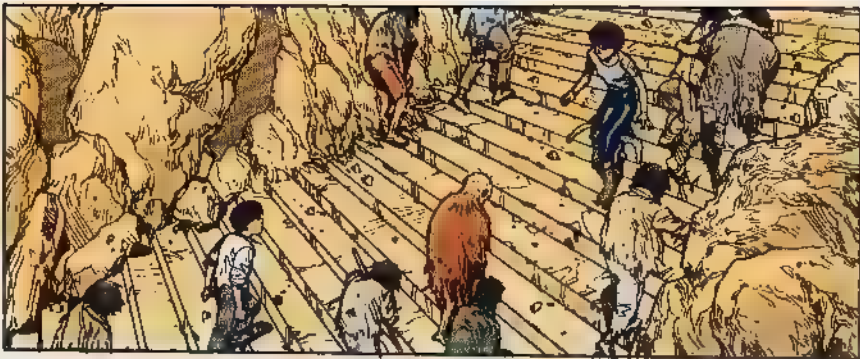


JUVENILE A, DID
YOU SAY? I
LIKE IT!

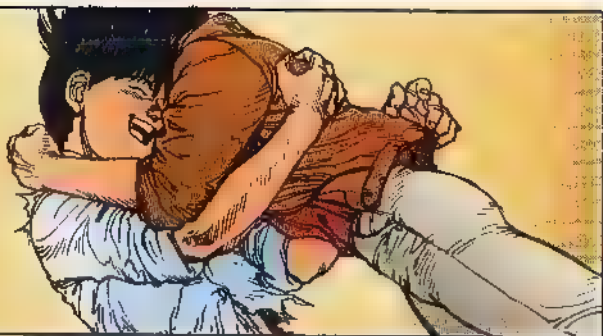
THEN IT'S SETTLED!



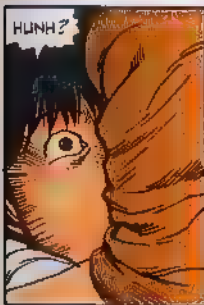




KANEDAAA!



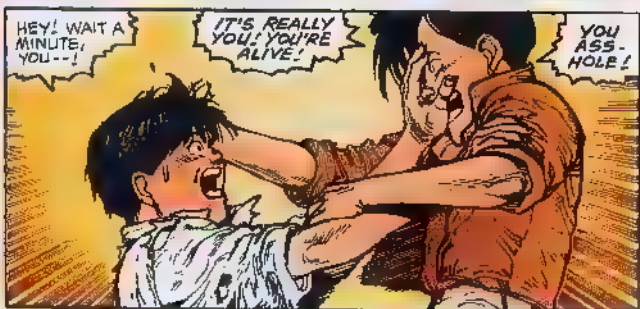
HUNH?



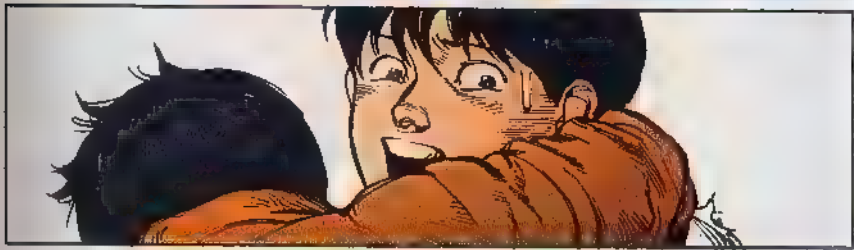
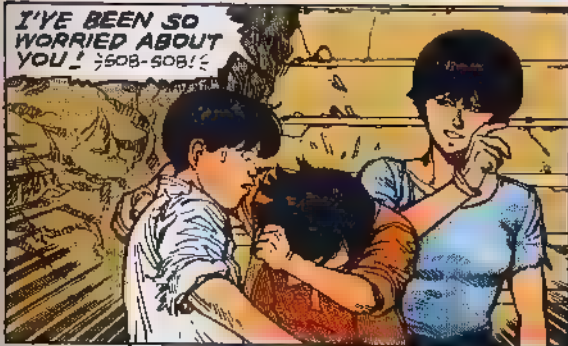
HEY! WAIT A
MINUTE,
YOU---!

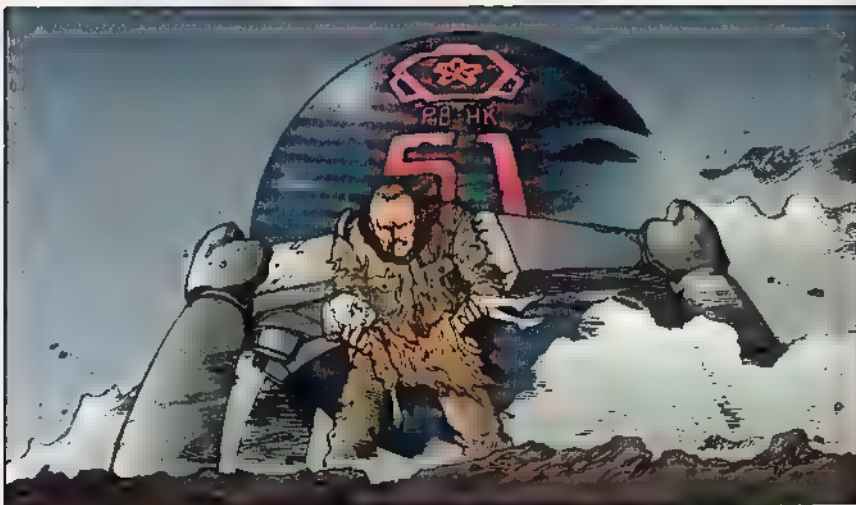
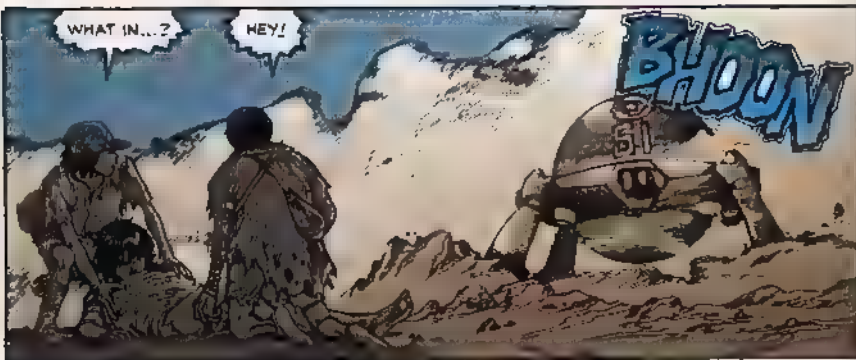
IT'S REALLY
YOU! YOU'RE
ALIVE!

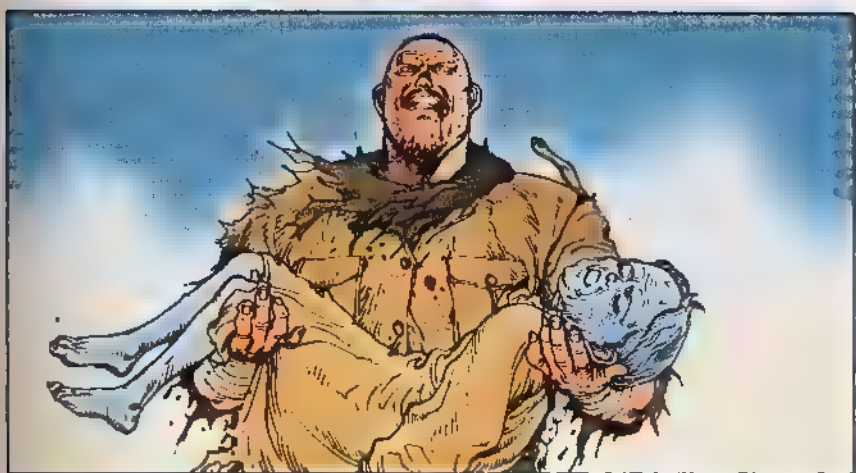
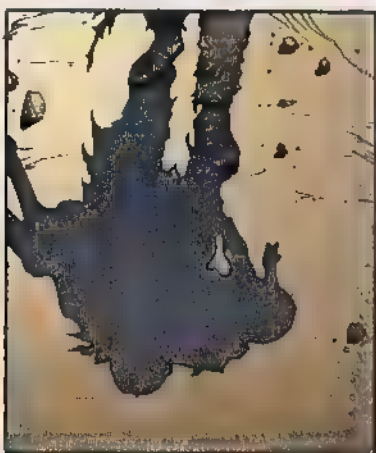
YOU
ASS-
HOLE!

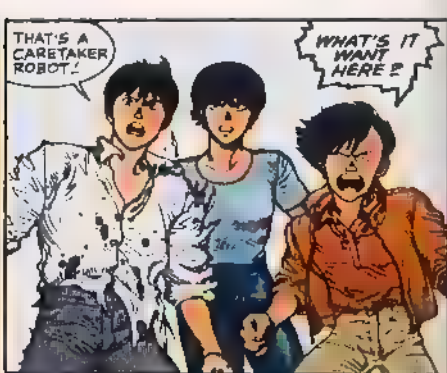


I'VE BEEN SO
WORRIED ABOUT
YOU! >SOB-SOB!<



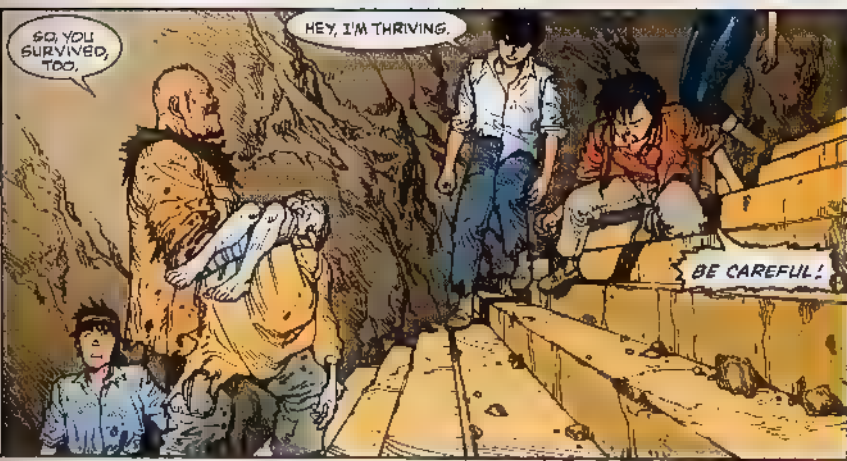








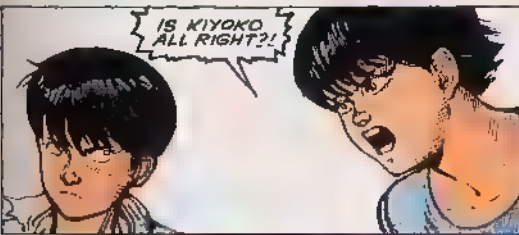
YOU?!



SO, YOU SURVIVED, TOO.

HEY, I'M THRIVING.

BE CAREFUL!

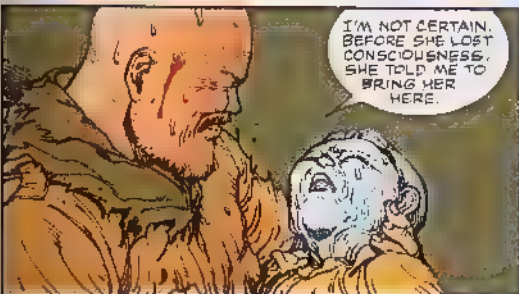


IS KIYOKO ALL RIGHT?!

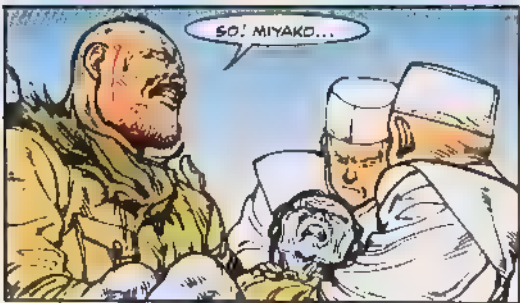


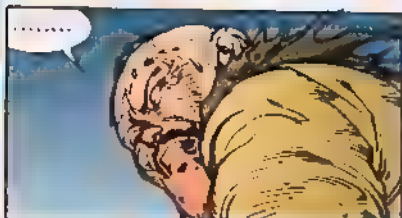
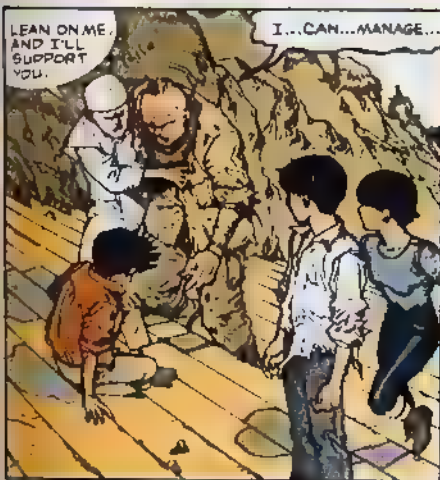
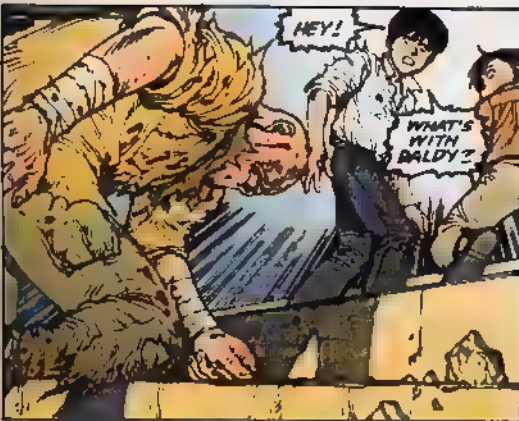
BECAUSE I CALLED HER

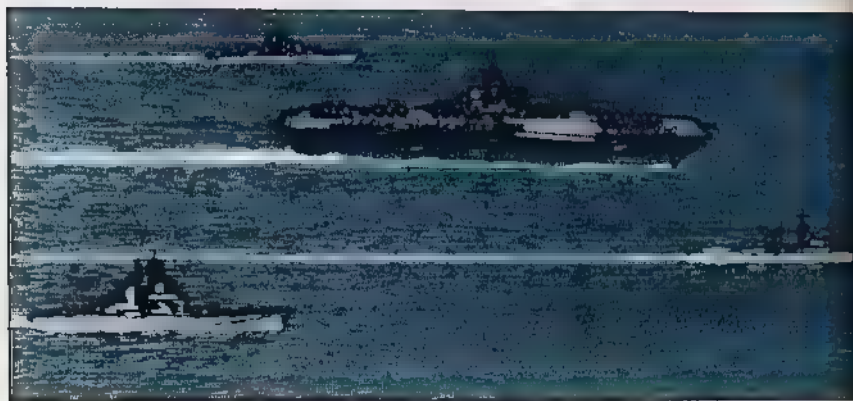
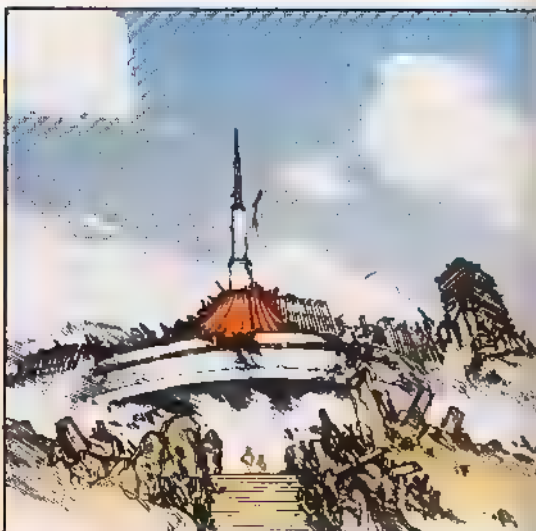
?!



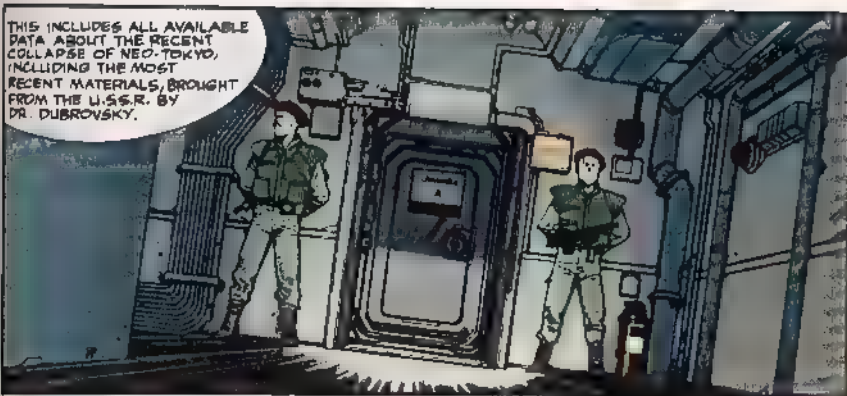
I'M NOT CERTAIN. BEFORE SHE LOST CONSCIOUSNESS, SHE TOLD ME TO BRING HER HERE.







THIS INCLUDES ALL AVAILABLE DATA ABOUT THE RECENT COLLAPSE OF NEO-TOKYO, INCLUDING THE MOST RECENT MATERIALS, BROUGHT FROM THE U.S.S.R. BY DR. DUBROVSKY.

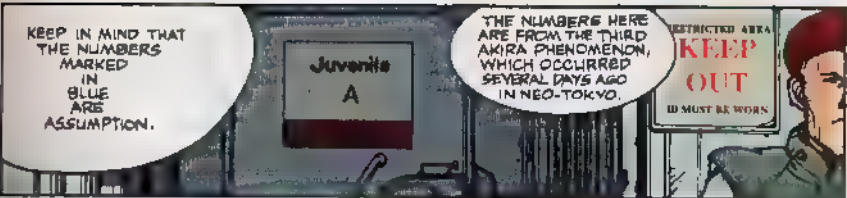


KEEP IN MIND THAT THE NUMBERS MARKED IN BLUE ARE ASSUMPTION.

Juvenile
A

THE NUMBERS WERE ARE FROM THE THIRD AKIRA PHENOMENON, WHICH OCCURRED SEVERAL DAYS AGO IN NEO-TOKYO.

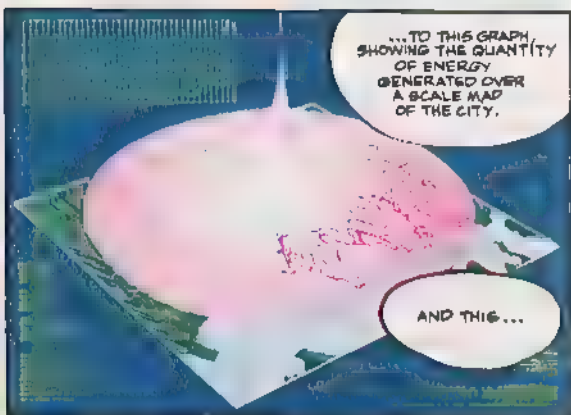
RESTRICTED AREA
KEEP OUT
ID MUST BE WORN



I RENDERED IT IN THREE DIMENSIONS TO FACILITATE COMPREHENSION, PLEASE DIRECT YOUR ATTENTION...



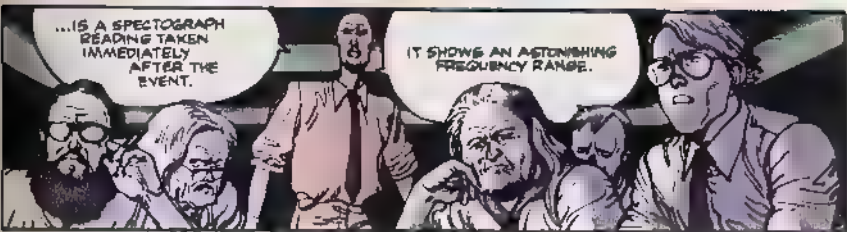
...TO THIS GRAPH, SHOWING THE QUANTITY OF ENERGY GENERATED OVER A SCALE MAP OF THE CITY.



AND THIS...

...IS A SPECTROGRAPH READING TAKEN IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE EVENT.

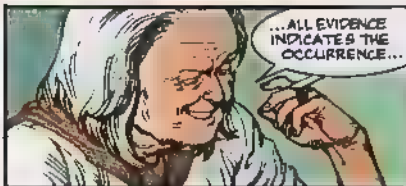
IT SHOWS AN ASTONISHING FREQUENCY RANGE.



THERE WERE GAMMA RAYS AT THE HEART OF THE DISTURBANCE, AS WELL AS EVIDENCE OF A RED SHIFT...

...WHICH IS CORROBORATED BY READINGS FROM OTHER SURVEY INSTALLATIONS VERIFIED AGAINST A TIME-PROCESS DIAGRAM

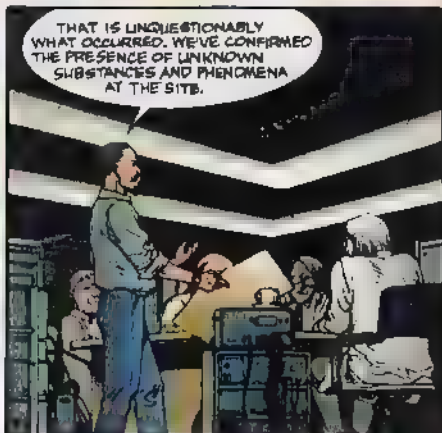
WE ALSO HAVE CONFIRMATION OF RADIOACTIVE DISINTEGRATION, NUCLEAR FISSION, GRAVITY WAVE DETECTION, PROTON COLLAPSE... IN SHORT...



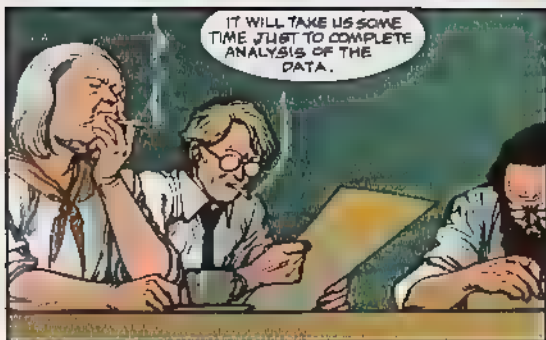
...ALL EVIDENCE INDICATES THE OCCURRENCE...



...OF A MINIATURE BIG BANG.



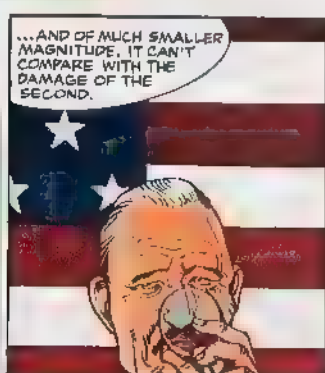
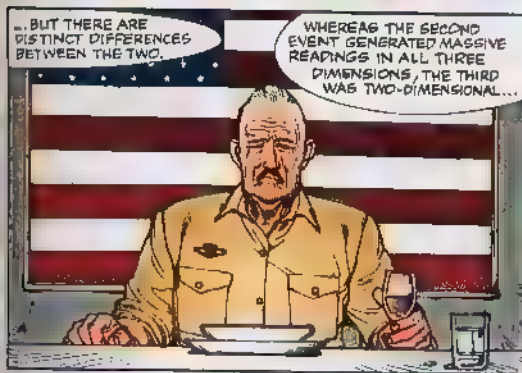
THAT IS UNQUESTIONABLY WHAT OCCURRED. WE'VE CONFIRMED THE PRESENCE OF UNKNOWN SUBSTANCES AND PHENOMENA AT THE SITE.

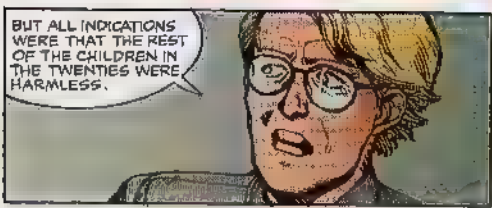
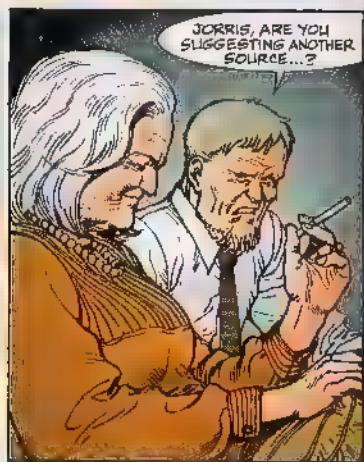
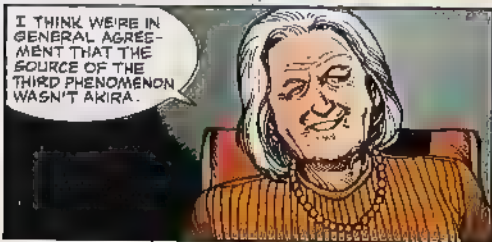
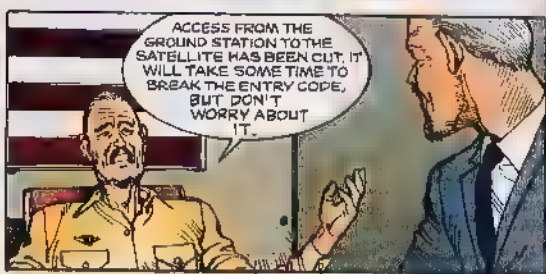
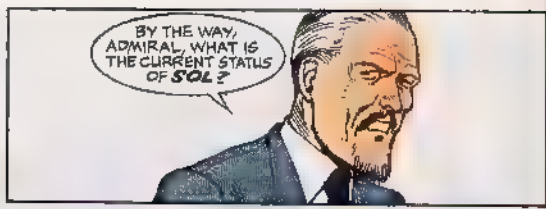
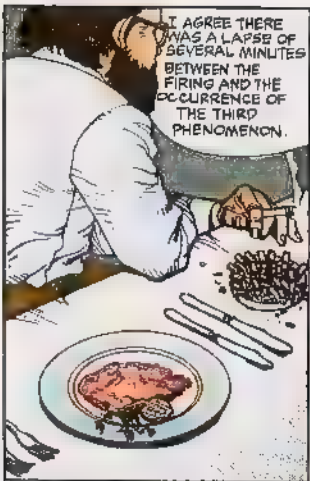


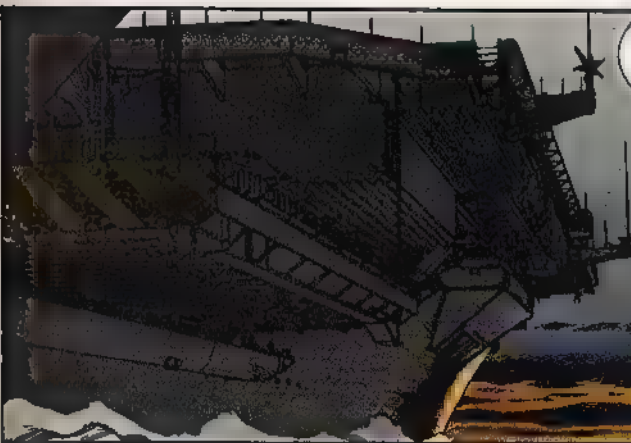
IT WILL TAKE US SOME TIME JUST TO COMPLETE ANALYSIS OF THE DATA.



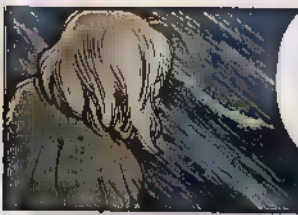
SO...WE'RE WITNESSES TO THE BIRTH OF A NEW UNIVERSE.







NUMBERS 32, 33, 36, 37
38 AND 40 ALL DIED
FROM BRAIN INJURIES
INCURRED DURING THEIR
TREATMENTS. NUMBERS
34, 35 AND 39...



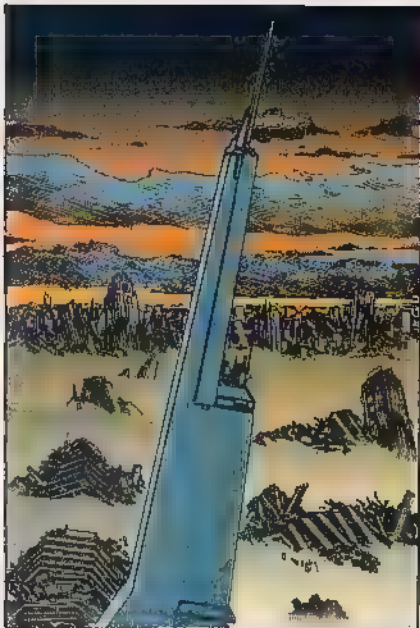
... WERE STILL
IN THE SECRET
LAB AT THE
TIME OF
THE SECOND
PHENOMENON. WITH
THE COLLAPSE OF
NEO-TOKYO, THEY
WERE LISTED
AS MISSING.



NUMBER 41 IS
REPORTED TO HAVE
RUN AWAY ON
APRIL 16, 2030...

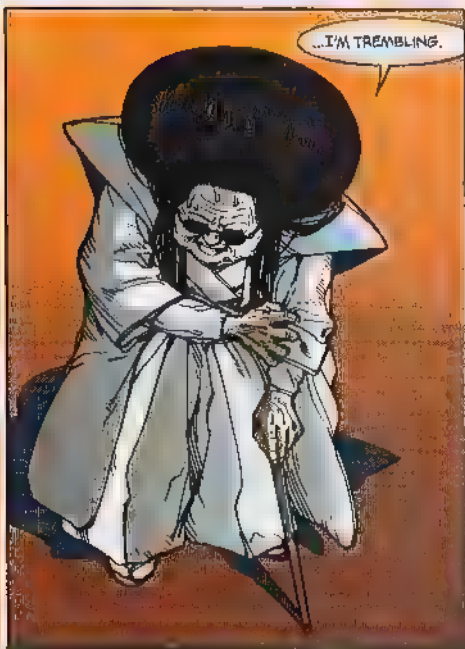


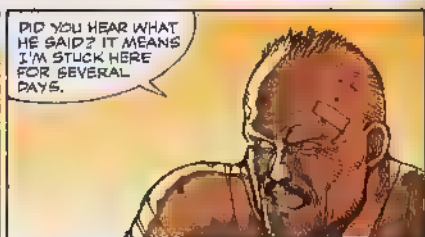
... THE SAME DAY
502 LASER CANNON
WAS FIRED AT THE
COMPLEX WHERE
AKIRA
WAS BEING
HELD.

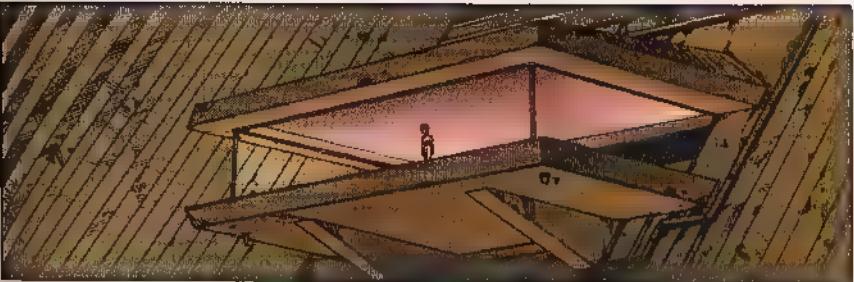


IT'S STILL TOO SOON TO TELL, ALTHOUGH SHE SHOULD RECOVER COMPLETELY.

I APPRECIATE THE CARE YOU'VE TAKEN OF HER. NOTIFY ME WHEN SHE AWAKENS.

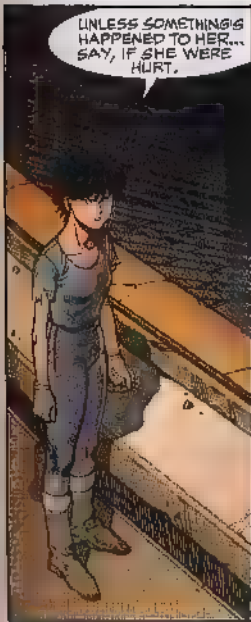






IF CHIYOKO IS STILL ALIVE...

... I KNOW SHE'LL TRY TO CONTACT ME, SOMEHOW.



UNLESS SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO HER... SAY, IF SHE WERE HURT.



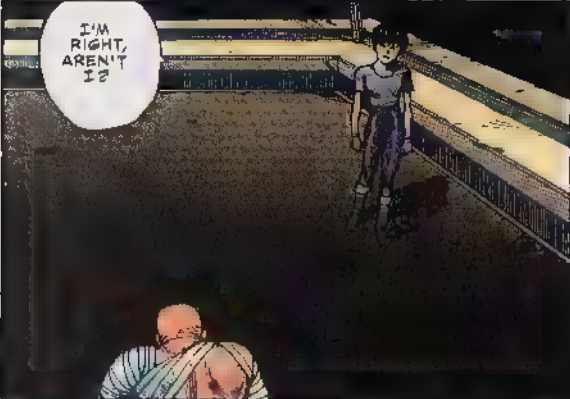
WELL...



IS IT CONNECTED TO THE FIRING OF THAT SATELLITE?



!



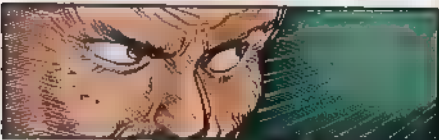
I'M
RIGHT,
AREN'T
I?



YOU ARE THE
ONE WHO FIRED
THE SPACE
LASER.

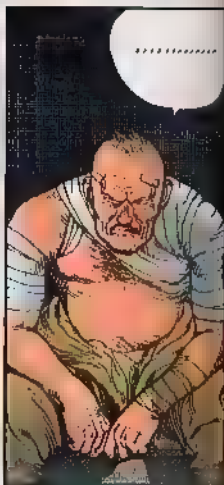


IT'S OKAY, THERE'S
NO ONE AROUND
WHO CAN HEAR
US.



AND I'M NOT
THAT INTERESTED,
EITHER.

I'M JUST
WORRIED ABOUT
CHIYOKO.



~~~~~





YOU'RE CALLED  
KAY, AREN'T  
YOU?

THAT'S RIGHT,  
COLONEL.



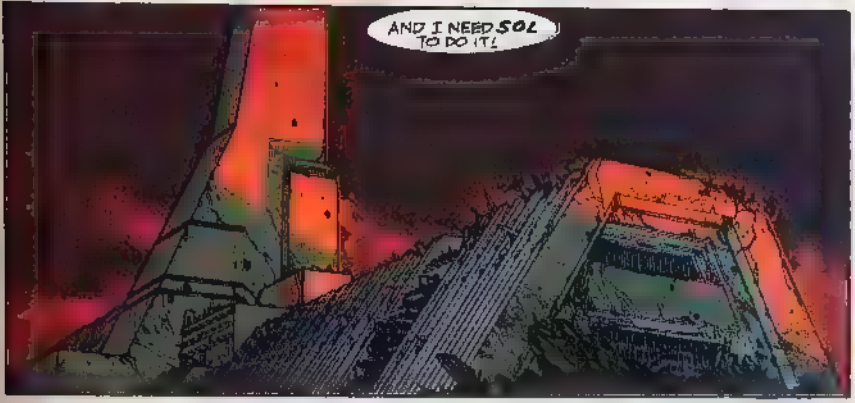
WHAT KEEPS YOU IN  
NEO-TOKYO?

IN MY  
CASE...

...IT'S DEDICATION  
TO DUTY. I HAVE A JOB  
TO FINISH.



LOYALTY TO FRIENDS...  
ONE OF WHOM MIGHT  
BE DYING.



AND I NEED 50L  
TO DO IT!

A man with dark hair and a blue t-shirt stands in a dark room, looking forward with a serious expression.

SOL...?

A close-up of a man with a beard and a bandage wrapped around his chest. He is looking down with a determined expression.

THE SPACE LASER.

A close-up of Mitsuo with a shocked expression, his mouth wide open. Radiating lines around his head emphasize his surprise.

YOU PLAN TO USE IT TO--!

A close-up of the man with a beard, looking intense and slightly to the side.

I ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SEED WHICH I PLANTED.

The man with a beard is embracing Mitsuo. Mitsuo is standing in front of him, looking up. The man's expression is one of relief or affection.

BEFORE HE GROWS INTO ANOTHER AKIRA.

A close-up of Mitsuo's face, showing a determined and slightly angry expression.

YOU MEAN TETSUO?

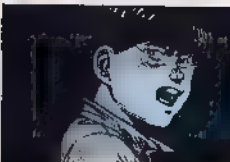
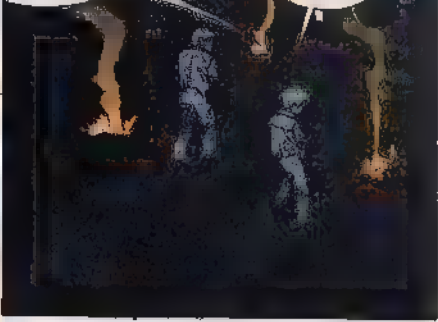
A close-up of the man with a beard, looking away with a somber expression. A small bandage is visible on his forehead.

I LEAVE BEFORE DAWN. IF YOU WANT TO COME WITH ME, BE WAITING AT THE FRONT GATE.

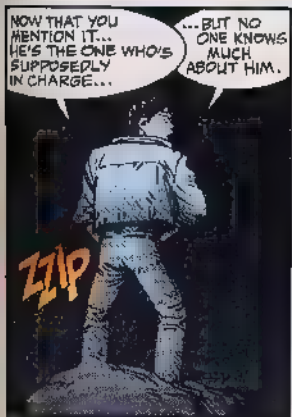


...THEN THEY  
SET UP THE  
GREAT TOKYO  
EMPIRE.

HE STRUTS  
AROUND LIKE  
SOME KIND  
OF KING.

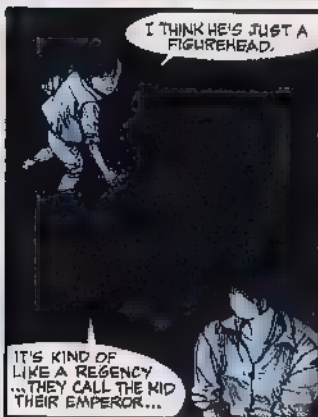


WHAT HAPPENED TO  
THE KID--AKIRA?



NOW THAT YOU  
MENTION IT...  
HE'S THE ONE WHO'S  
SUPPOSEDLY  
IN CHARGE...

...BUT NO  
ONE KNOWS  
MUCH  
ABOUT HIM.



I THINK HE'S JUST A  
FIGUREHEAD.

IT'S KIND OF  
LIKE A REGENCY  
...THEY CALL THE KID  
THEIR EMPEROR...



...BUT...

...TETSUO'S  
THE GUY WHO  
GIVES THE  
ORDERS.

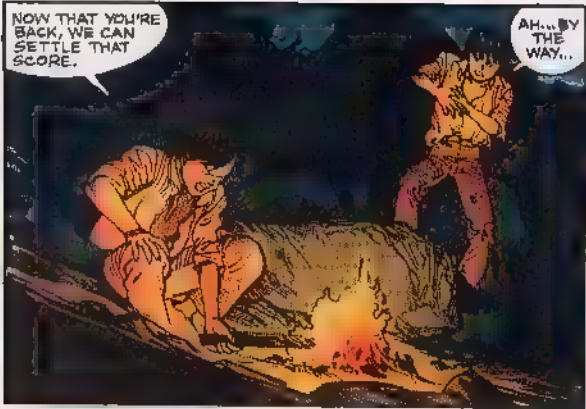


NOT DEAD YET,  
KUNH, TETSUO?

AND FROM THE  
SOUND OF THINGS,  
YOU'RE GETTING TO  
BE A REAL BIG  
SHOT.



NOW THAT YOU'RE BACK, WE CAN SETTLE THAT SCORE.



AH... BY THE WAY...

YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ANY CLOTHES I COULD BORROW, WOULD YOU?

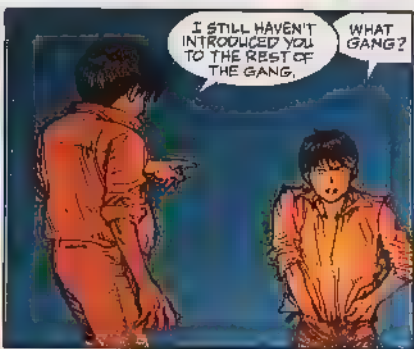


THAT'S RIGHT! I FORGOT!



I STILL HAVEN'T INTRODUCED YOU TO THE REST OF THE GANG.

WHAT GANG?



YOU EXPECT ME TO MAKE A GOOD FIRST IMPRESSION DRESSED LIKE THIS?



COME ON... YOU CAN GET ANYTHING YOU WANT!

THERE'S SOMEONE YOU'VE GOTTA MEET.

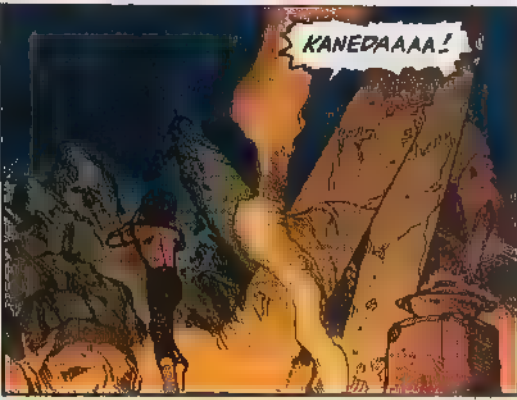
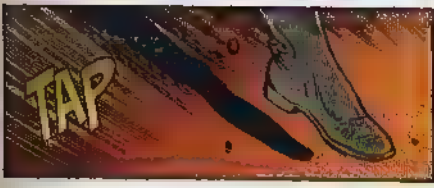
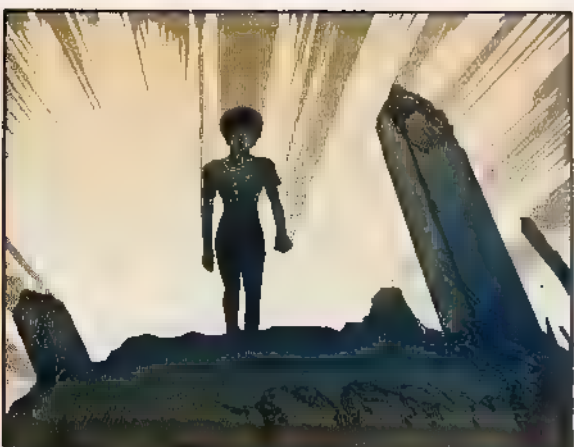


OW!

WHO IS HE?

YOU'LL SEE!







HEY!  
WHERE ARE YOU  
GOING?

AWAY  
FROM THE TEMPLE.  
FOLLOW ME.



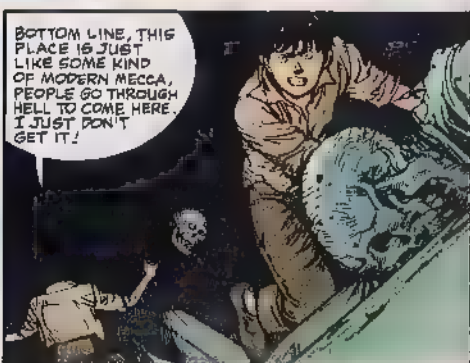
WHO IS THIS  
MIYAKO CHARACTER,  
ANYWAY?



FOUNDER OF  
HER OWN CHURCH  
... LIVING  
GODDESS...



SEMI-SAINT WHO DOES  
THE LADY BOUNTIFUL  
THING FOR THE SICK  
AND THE NEEDY.



BOTTOM LINE, THIS  
PLACE IS JUST  
LIKE SOME KIND  
OF MODERN MECCA,  
PEOPLE GO THROUGH  
HELL TO COME HERE.  
I JUST DON'T  
GET IT!





NOT EVERYONE COMES  
EMPTY-HANDED. PEOPLE  
BRING FOOD, MEDICINE...  
SOME OF 'EM GO INTO  
BUSINESS.

PEOPLE WANTING TO  
TRADE NEED VALUABLES...  
LOT OF 'EM BECOME  
SCAVENGERS...



THERE'S ENOUGH WORTH  
RIPPING OFF, WE'VE EVEN  
GOT BANDS OF THIEVES  
...A WHOLE BLACK  
MARKET COMMUNITY,  
BUILT AROUND THE  
SHRINE.

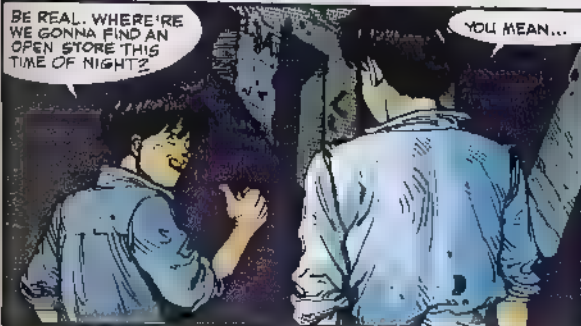


OH, I GET IT!

THAT'S WHERE I  
CAN BUY SOME  
CLOTHES!



ONLY... I DON'T  
HAVE ANYTHING  
WORTH BARTERING.

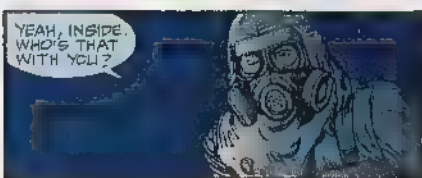


BE REAL. WHERE'RE  
WE GONNA FIND AN  
OPEN STORE THIS  
TIME OF NIGHT?

YOU MEAN...



... WE'RE GOING  
TO THE THIEVES'  
QUARTER?





NOT DEAD  
YET, HUNH,  
KAI?

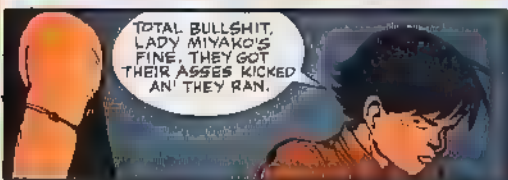
YO!



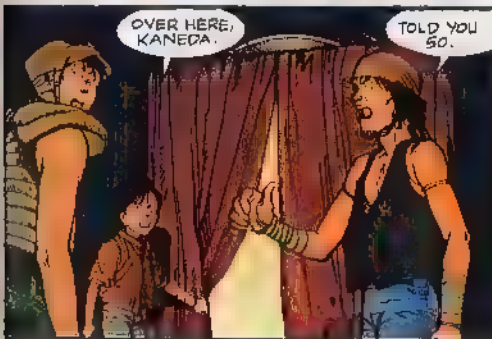
IS IT TRUE?!  
DID THOSE  
TOKYO  
EMPIRE  
BASTARDS...

...MURDER  
LADY  
MIYAKO?!

AN' IS THE  
MIGHTY AKIRA  
COMING  
AFTER US  
NEXT?

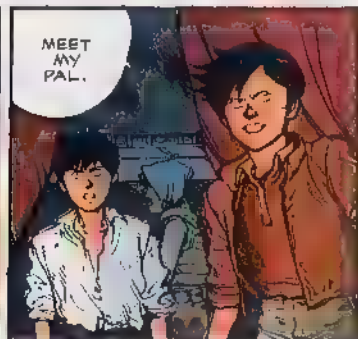


TOTAL BULLSHIT.  
LADY MIYAKO'S  
FINE. THEY GOT  
THEIR ASSES KICKED  
AN' THEY RAN.



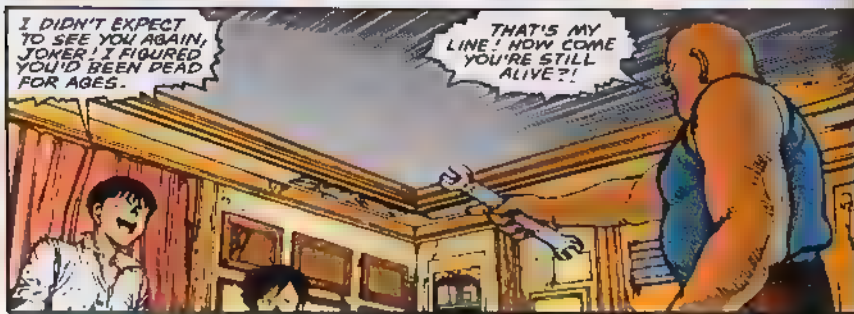
OVER HERE,  
KANEDA.

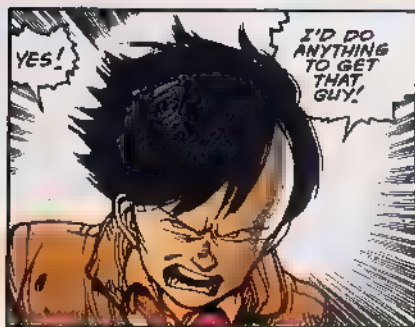
TOLD YOU  
SO.

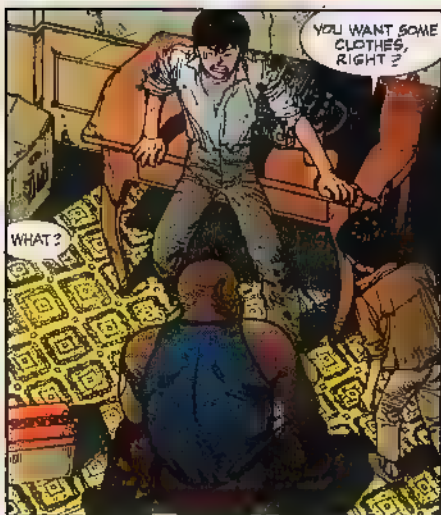
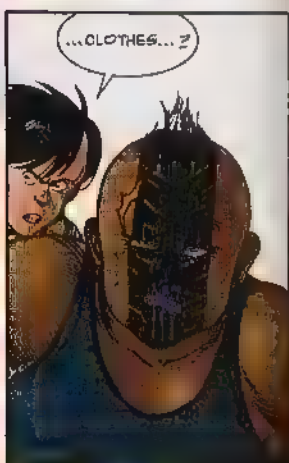


MEET  
MY  
PAL.

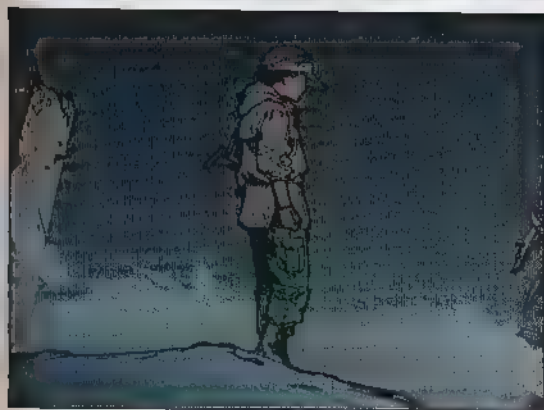
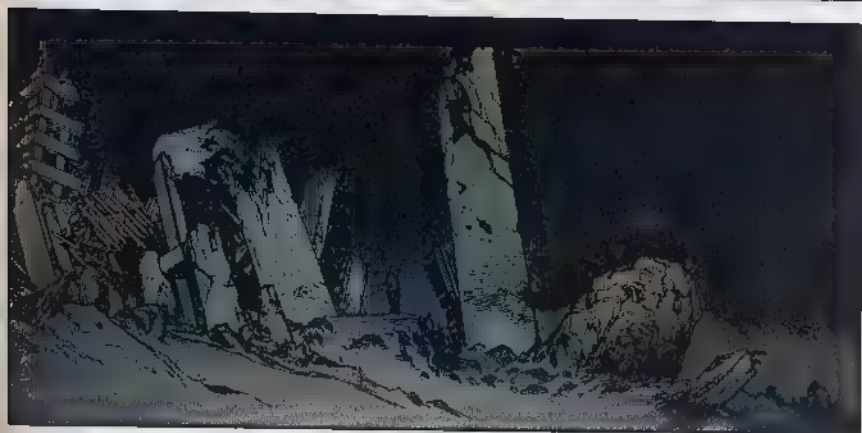
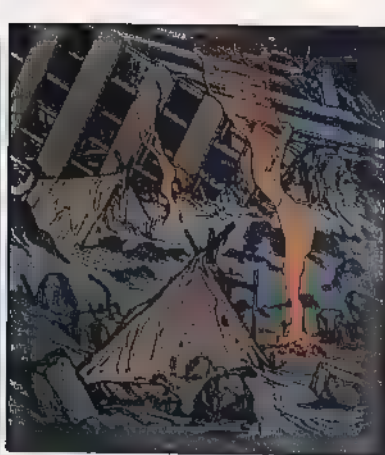
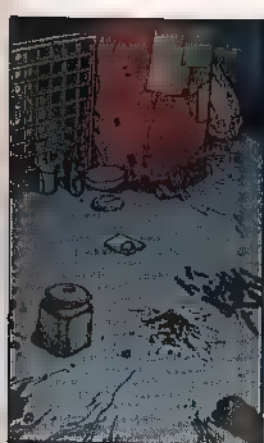








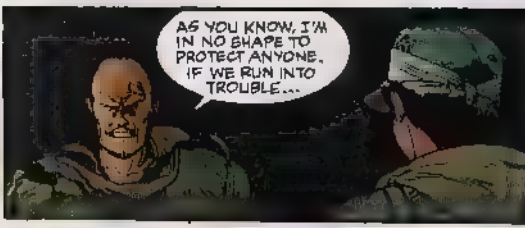






WELL... LET'S  
BE OFF.

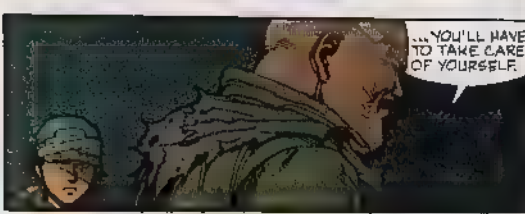
COLONEL...



AS YOU KNOW, I'M  
IN NO SHAPE TO  
PROTECT ANYONE.  
IF WE RUN INTO  
TROUBLE...



DON'T  
WORRY  
ABOUT  
ME.



...YOU'LL HAVE  
TO TAKE CARE  
OF YOURSELF.



ROCKET GUNS  
AND TRENCH  
MORTARS... ?  
THAT MEANS  
A FULL-SCALE  
WAR.

NO... NO...  
IT JUST  
WENT  
ME.

IT WAS THE EMPIRE  
BROUGHT OUT  
EVERY WEAPON IN  
THEIR ARMORY.

MAYBE  
THIS  
ONE...

HOW DOES  
TETSUO FIT  
INTO ALL  
THIS?

YOU SAID  
HE HAD NO  
CONNECTION  
WITH THAT  
ARMY?

LAST I HEARD, HE'D  
BEEN DOING A LOT OF  
DRUGS. WHEN I SAW  
HIM, HE WAS TOTALLY  
STRUNG OUT.

FLIP  
FLOP

HUH?

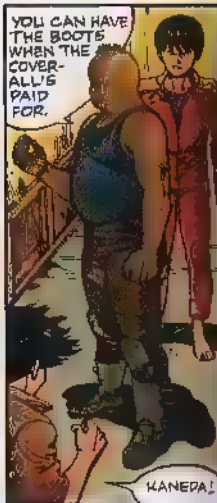
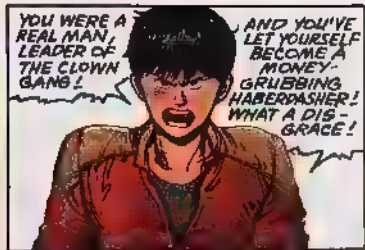
SOUNDS LIKE HE'S  
FORGOTTEN THAT  
A HEAD BELONGS  
ON TOP OF A  
BODY.

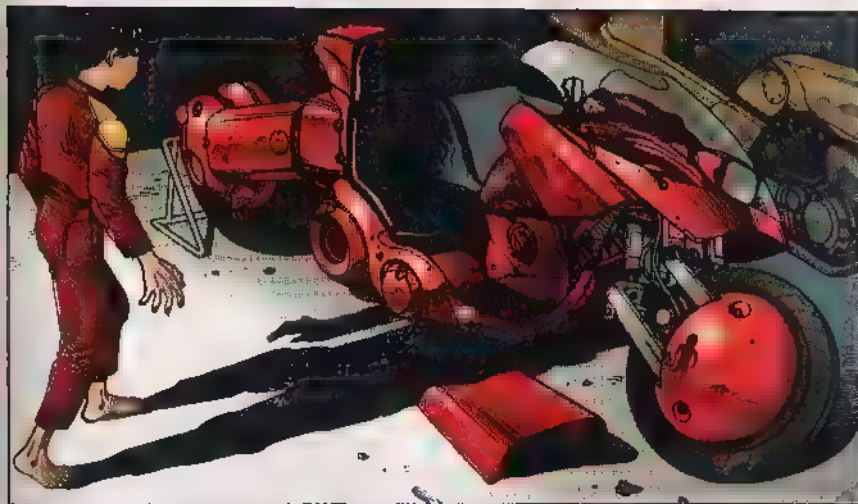
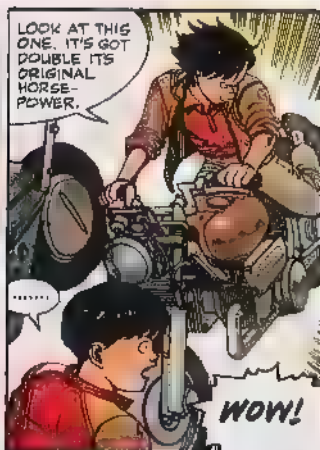
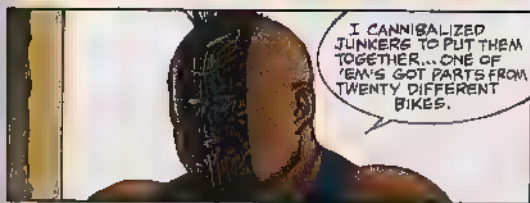
ZIP

CHECK IT OUT !  
THIS JUMPSUIT  
FITS LIKE IT  
WAS MADE  
FOR ME !

I'LL TAKE IT !







>GASP!<

FLUP

A FLYING  
PLATFORM!

WHERE DID  
YOU GET  
IT?!

I HEARD IT'S  
A TOP-SECRET  
MILITARY  
TOOL.

KAI FOUND IT  
UNDERGROUND.

IT WAS  
NOTHING.

IT'S ALL COBBLED  
TOGETHER FROM  
MACHINE PARTS  
AND CERAMICS.

I NEVER  
FIGURED HIM  
FOR SUCH AN ACE  
MECHANIC.

WE  
WEREN'T  
WORKING  
ALONE.

TOOK SCRAP FROM  
THREE OF THEM TO  
PUT THIS ONE  
TOGETHER, AND  
IT'S STILL NOT  
COMPLETE.



ARE YOU TELLING  
ME THAT KAY HAS  
LEFT THE SHRINE?!

Y--  
--YES,  
MY  
LADY!

APPARENTLY, SHE  
WENT OUT BEFORE  
DAWN, ACCOMPANIED  
BY THE COLONEL.

FOOLISH! ACTING  
ONLY FOR HER-  
SELF... FAILING  
TO SEE SHE  
BELONGS TO  
US!

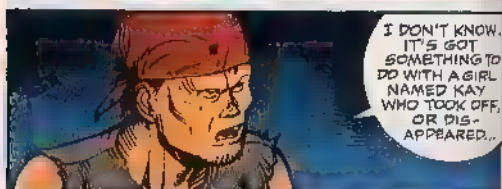
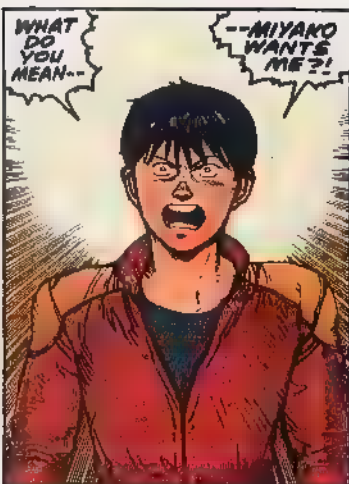
THE COLONEL ALSO  
RAIDED OUR MEDICAL  
SUPPLIES FOR  
ANTIBIOTICS.

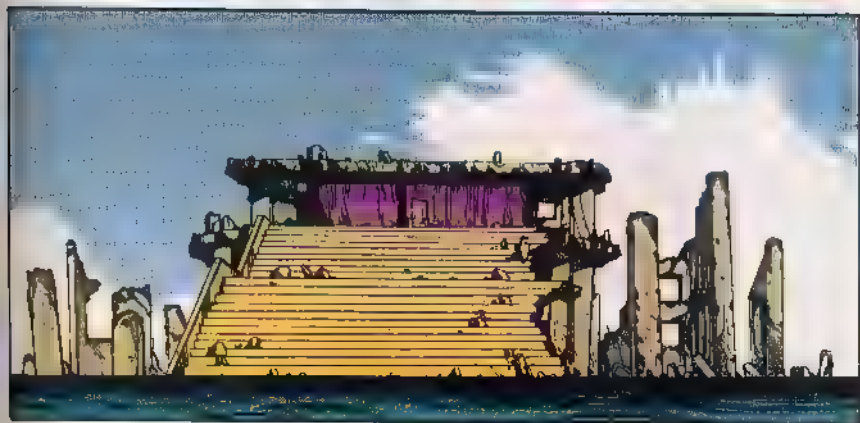
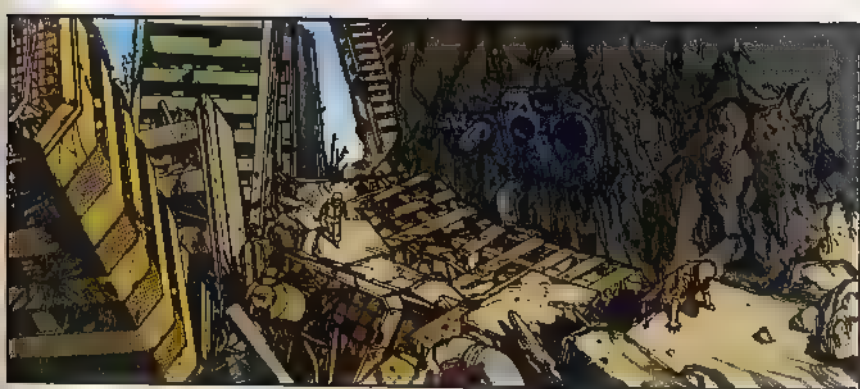
ENOUGH!  
BRING  
THEM BACK  
AT ONCE!

YES,  
MA'AM!

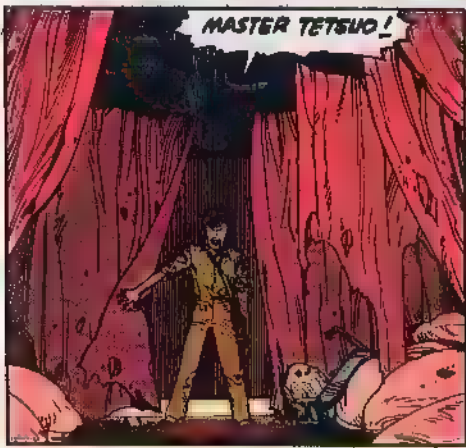
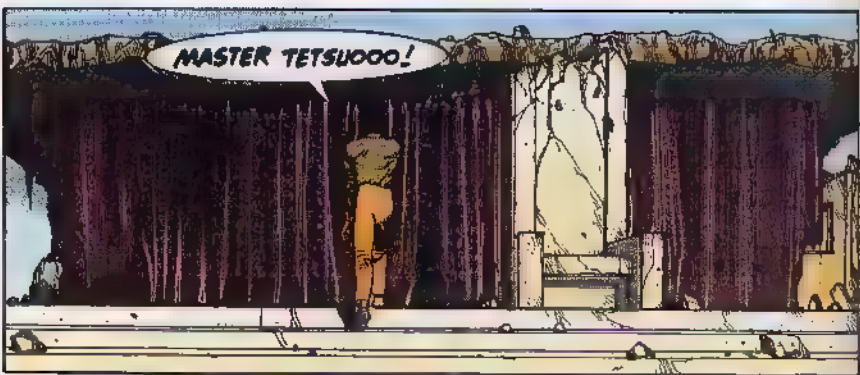
WHAT'S  
YOUR  
HURRY?

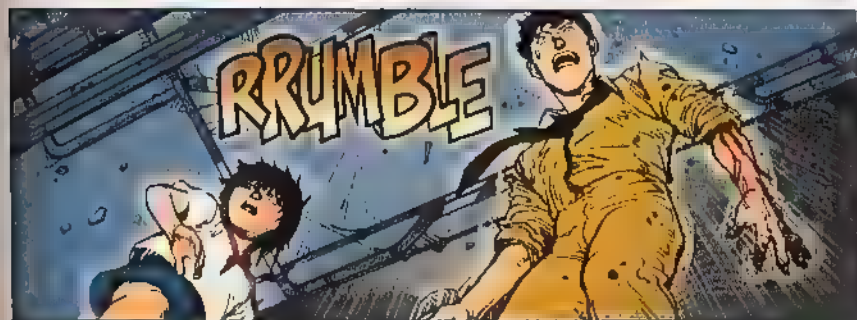
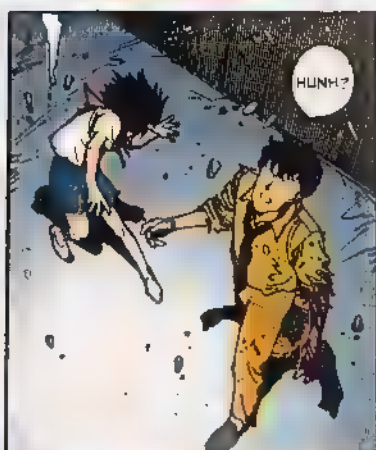
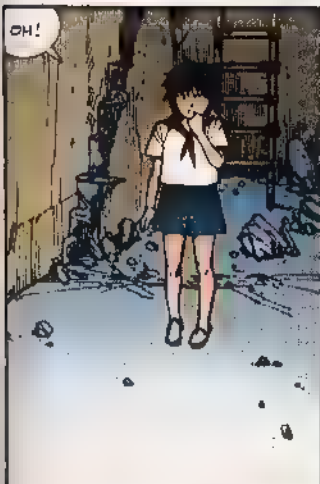
I JUST  
CAME FROM THE  
SHRINE!











NEXT ISSUE: **VISION UNDERGROUND**

## **AKIRA: the movie AN UPDATE**

The English-language version of the animated film **AKIRA** will play in the following cities during the months of September and October:

### **BROOKLINE, MA (BOSTON AREA)**

#### **COOLIDGE CORNER THEATER**

September 3—open ended

### **KEENE, NH**

#### **PUTNAM SCREENING ROOM**

September 7—September 11

### **BALTIMORE, MD**

#### **BALTIMORE FILM FORUM, BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART**

September 13—14

### **WICHITA, KS**

#### **MALL THEATER**

September 15 only

### **WATERVILLE, ME**

#### **RAILROAD SQUARE CINEMA**

September 14—20

### **NORTHHAMPTON, MA**

#### **PLEASANT STREET THEATER**

September 19—25

### **MONTGOMERY, AL**

#### **CAPRI THEATER**

September 21—27

### **ANN ARBOR, MI.**

#### **MICHIGAN THEATER**

September 28—30

### **INDIANAPOLIS, IN**

#### **IRVING THEATER**

September 28—October 4

### **LONDON, ENGLAND**

#### **SCALA CINEMA**

September 22 only

### **NEW YORK, NY**

#### **THE NEW YORK FILM FORUM**

October 19—November 1

Also in October, **AKIRA** is opening in Toronto at the **Paradise Theater** and in Ottawa at the **Bytowne Theater**.



KATSUHIRO OTOMO

YASUHIRO SUHARA

MAKOTO SUGIYAMA  
SATORU TAKAGAKI

KENJIRO HIRATA

AKIRA SATO

KENJIRO ITO  
YOSHINOBU SAWA

KENJIRO ITO  
YOSHINOBU SAWA

YUKA ANDO

KENJIRO OKAZAKI

JOE LUCAS  
JOE LUCAS

STEVE OLIV

OLYPTICS COMPUTER CREW

MICHAEL MORGAN

STEVE ALFRANDINO

MATT JAMES

MARGARET CLARK

CARL PORTS

**T**he Thieve's Quarter of Neo-Tokyo becomes the backdrop for Kaneda to forge new unions with old friends...and old enemies. The cold light of an early dawn sets the stage for an uneasy alliance between Kay and the Colonel. And the mighty war machines of the superpowers are the setting for a meeting of the world's most brilliant minds, men and women united in a desperate effort to understand the mystery and power of Akira...while a world still remains in which to understand anything at all.

KATSUHIRO OTOMO'S

AKIRA



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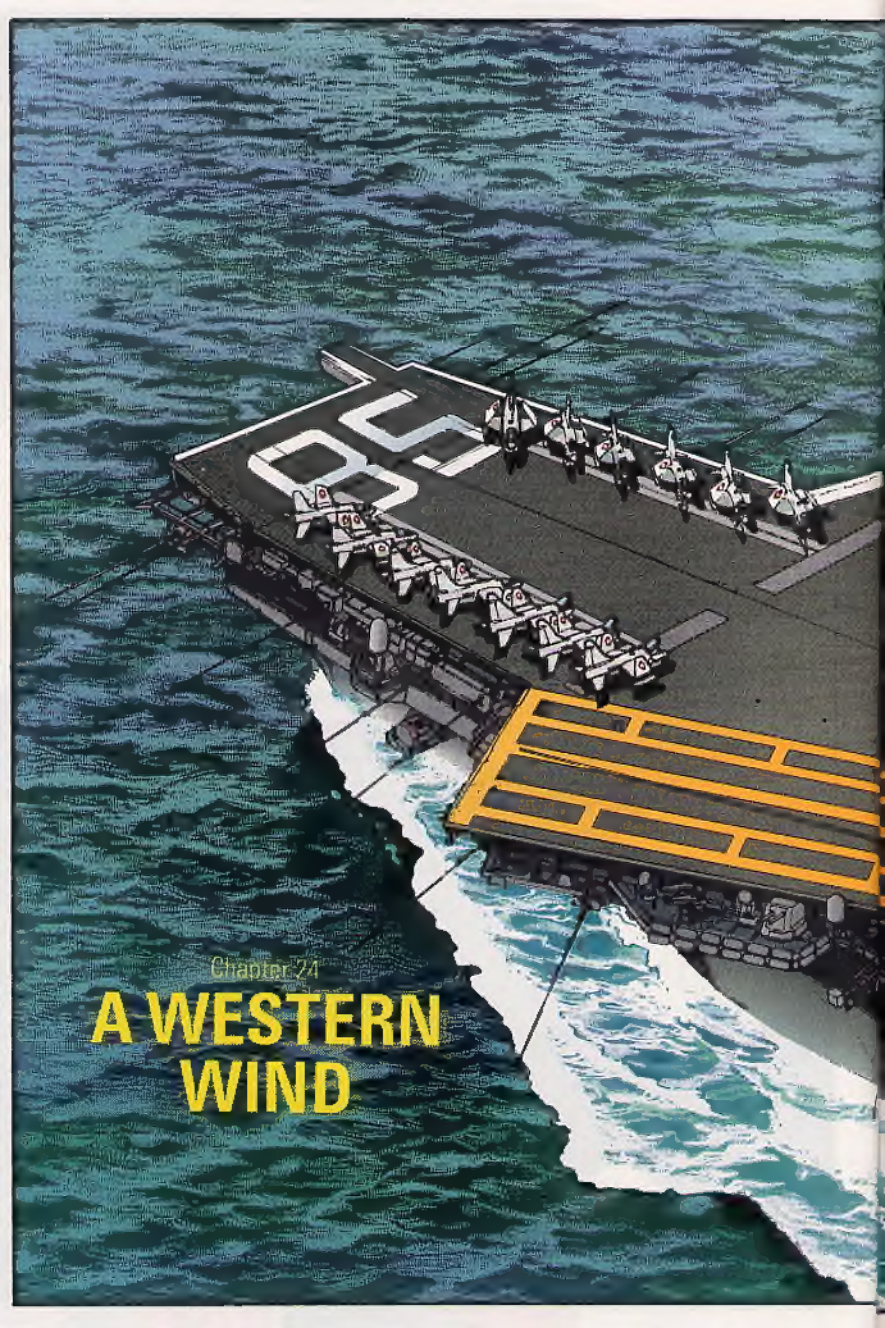
**X-FUTURE**

I love um

I buy um

I preserve um



An aerial, high-angle view of an aircraft carrier's flight deck. The deck is dark grey with white markings, including a large '05' in the upper left. A line of ten fighter jets, likely F-4 Phantom IIs, is parked along the starboard side of the deck. The jets have white markings on their noses and tails. In the lower right, a section of the deck is marked with yellow and black stripes. The carrier is moving through dark blue, choppy water, leaving a white wake. The overall style is that of a vintage magazine or book cover illustration.

Chapter 24

# A WESTERN WIND

